Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 174507 ORIGIN SPTA-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DODE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 /066 R

DRAFTED BY S/PTA:DHPOPPER:JK APPROVED BY S/PTA:AMB. POPPER ARA/PAN - MR. HAAHR

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R 111918Z JUL 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA USCINCSO

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 174507

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PN

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF PANAMA CANAL TREATY

REF: USUN 2618

FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG FROM POPPER

AMEMBASSY PANAMA PASS TO GOV PANCANAL

1. I APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN AS TO THE NEED FOR CLOSE AND EFFECTIVE CONSULTATION WITH PANAMANIANS, IN AND OUT OF GOVERNMENT, AS WE MOVE TOWARD IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PANAMA CANAL TREATIES. WE ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS WHICH MAY ARISE IN THIS REGARD, WHETHER THEY STEM FROM THE HERITAGE OF THE PAST, INGRAINED PRECONCEPTIONS ON THE TWO SIDES, EXAGGERATED EXPECTATIONS, OR THE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST WHICH NATURALLY TEND TO APPEAR IN A COOPERATIVE, BI-NATIONAL CONFIDENTIAL

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OPERATION. WE INTEND TO DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO HANDLE SUCH PROBLEMS IN A COOPERATIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER.

2. IN THIS CONNECTION, LET ME SAY THAT THE PLANNING CONTACTS ALREADY ESTABLISHED WITH PANAMANIAN OFFICIALS BY OUR RANKING OFFICERS IN PANAMA HAVE GOTTEN US OFF TO A GOOD START. WE ARE CURRENTLY ORGANIZING OURSELVES WITHIN THE

U.S. GOVERNMENT IN SUCH A WAY AS TO ENSURE THAT THE PRESERVATION OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN PANAMA AND THE UNITED STATES WILL BE AN UNDERLYING OBJECTIVE IN ALL THE STEPS WE TAKE TO SET UP THE NEW TREATY STRUCTURE AND MAKE IT WORK

- 3. WE FULLY INTEND TO ACT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE THROUGH CONSULTATION WITH PANAMA. AS YOU RECALL, THE TREATY STRUCTURE ITSELF PROVIDES FOR AN EXTENSIVE NETWORK OF BILATERAL COMMITTEES AND SIMILAR GROUPINGS. IN THE INTERIM PERIOD OF 14 MONTHS OR SO BEFORE THE TREATIES COME INTO FORCE, WE WILL ATTAIN A SIMILAR RESULT THROUGH VARIOUS TEMPORARY MECHANISMS TO BE ESTABLISHED IN PANAMA, AND AS REQUIRED IN WASHINGTON.
- 4. YOUR POINT REGARDING CONSULTATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL PANAMANIANS IS ALSO WELL TAKEN. WE WOULD OF COURSE LOOK PRIMARILY TO OUR EMBASSY IN PANAMA TO IMPROVE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING THERE OF TREATY MATTERS, THROUGH CONTACTS OF THE TYPE YOU SUGGEST WITH LEADING CITIZENS AND THROUGH AN ACTIVE PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM.
- 5. IN SHORT, WHILE WE DO NOT UNDERRATE THE DIFFICULTIES INHERENT IN THE SITUATION, YOU MAY BE SURE THAT WE WILL DEAL WITH THEM IN THE SPIRIT OF YOUR THOUGHTFUL MESSAGE. CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 01 STATE 174507 ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /015 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE 4428

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 174507

FOR AMB YOUNG FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 174507 ACTION USUN NEW YORK PANAMA USCINCSO JULY 11.

QUOTE CONFIDENTIAL STATE 174507

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PN

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF PANAMA CANAL TREATY

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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